

Allowable Subject Matter

In section 8 of the Office Action the Examiner indicated that Claims 49-85, 90, and 91 are allowed.

In section 9 of the Office Action the Examiner indicated that Claims 3-17, 27, 32-38, and 47 "are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." Applicants have placed Claims 3, 6, and 32 in independent form (as indicated by the Examiner) to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Further, Applicants have amended claims 20-24, 26, 41-46, and 48 to depend (directly or indirectly) from pending independent claims that have been put into allowable form.

Accordingly, applicants request prompt and favorable reconsideration and allowance of independent claims 3, 6, and 32 and their dependents, as amended.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C § 112

In section 2 of the Office Action the Examiner rejected Claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶ 2, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner stated, "Claim 25 recites the limitation 'the second input device' in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim." Applicants have amended Claim 25 to depend from independent Claim 6 and to provide proper antecedent basis. Accordingly, applicants submit that Claim 25 is allowable.

* * *

It is respectfully submitted that each and every outstanding objection and rejection as to the pending claims has been overcome, and the application is in a condition for allowance. Claims 3-27, 32-38, 41-85, and 90-91 are now pending in this application. Claims 3, 6, and 32 have been amended to recite in proper form subject matter that the Examiner has indicated is "allowable". Dependent Claims 20-26, 41-46, and 48 have been amended to depend (directly or indirectly) from other pending

independent claims that have been amended into allowable form. Claims 1, 28-31, and 92 have been cancelled without prejudice to further prosecution on the merits.

The preceding amendments and cancellations of claims without prejudice have been made to obtain prompt allowance of other claims indicated as allowable in the Office Action. By canceling and amending such claims, applicants wish to make it unmistakably clear that they do not agree to or acquiesce in any rejections of the claims and/or in the Examiner's view of the scope and content (i.e., disclosure) of any of the cited references. At this time, applicants maintain that such claims recite subject matter patentable over the cited references.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if such would advance the prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date October 18, 2000

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